

## WEST VIRGINIA TAKES PART IN CAPITAL NEWS

Events of Washington, D. C.,  
Are Reported by Telegram's  
Correspondent There.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Congressman Sutherland visited the state department during his short stay in the city this week to ask officials to make inquiry into the reasons for detaining Mrs. Ellen Clemens, of New Cumberland, W. Va., at Ellis Island, and to ascertain if she cannot be released at once. Mrs. Clemens has relatives in Hancock county, who have written to Congressman Sutherland and he is making every effort to have papers forwarded which will secure her freedom to pass.

Mr. Sutherland also took up with the department the question of sending certain labor into West Virginia. Since the outbreak of the war, and the constant call for men at high salaries in the various munition, steel and other war manufacturing establishments, men are constantly being drawn from other lines, and at present there is a shortage of labor of various kinds in West Virginia—in the mines, among lumber workers and others. Congressman Sutherland reported to the commissioner of labor the condition of affairs in the state and the latter promised to get into communication at once with Commissioner Nightingale, of the state, and co-operate with him in any way possible to secure the desired number of men.

"Senator Borah made a correct report as to the conditions in West Virginia," was the statement of Joe McLane, of this city, who has just returned from a visit through his home state. "If there had been any doubt how West Virginia might go in the election, that doubt was dispelled when the Democrats passed the eight-hour law. West Virginia is more vitally affected by that law than perhaps is any other state in the union, and not only Republicans but Democrats all over the state are up in arms against the administration because of it. I have been in every congressional district in the state and am familiar with conditions. In my judgment, West Virginia will give an overwhelming plurality for the national ticket, elect the entire state ticket and return a solid Republican delegation to Congress. There are at present two Democratic members of the House from West Virginia. I believe in both districts represented by Democrats the Republicans will win. The election of a Republican United States senator is assured."

"The voters of the state have never been so much interested in a campaign as they are this year, and there will be a bigger vote recorded in November than in any previous election. There is no longer any Progressive party in the state, and the Republican vote will be cast solidly for the party candidate."

Conrad H. Symes, of West Virginia, district corporation counsel, is in West Virginia this week, speaking for the Democratic party among his home folks. Mr. Symes will be one of the speakers at the old-fashioned Democratic rally which is to be held in Washington October 10, under the auspices of the Wilson-Marshall League. Mr. Wilson has been invited to attend the latter meeting and several prominent West Virginia Democrats have been asked to deliver addresses.

Word was received here today by Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Baker that Mrs. Elizabeth P. Higginbotham, wife of Samuel H. Higginbotham, former postmaster at Charles Town, had passed away at their home near Rippon, W. Va. Mrs. Higginbotham was 73 years of age, and besides her daughter, Mrs. Baker, of this city, is survived by two sons.

Congressman George Bowers paid his usual Thursday visit to Washington this week and was a busy man for the few hours he spent in the House building looking after the department matters that had come up during his absence. The office force of Mr. Bowers has been working over time to supply blanks and information for the numerous widows in his district who are eligible to increase in pension under the Ashbrook widows pension bill passed this month by Congress. Many of the application blanks have been returned and filed by Mr. Bowers on his weekly visits with the pension bureau. The importance of keeping in touch with his constituents through the Washington office, and looking personally after the numerous requests that come in daily has been more than realized by Mr. Bowers, and his home is near enough to Washington for him to keep in close touch with affairs here and give prompt attention to the departmental matters and numerous other affairs, which the passing of new laws in Congress this year made necessary.

Congressman Sutherland was also here for a few days and spent some time in conference with Mr. Bowers as to the situation in West Virginia. Mr. Sutherland and Mr. Bowers are very optimistic as to the outcome of the November election.

"Republican leaders have set their hearts on carrying the state," said Mr. Bowers, "and from all indications they are going to win it. Here it is only the end of September and the campaign in the state has aroused interest that sounds like November 6. National officials have placed the senatorial election in the 'sure-to-be-safe' class; every indication points to a solid Republican delegation for the state; and, the efforts of the Democrats to make political capital out of the Robinson-Lilly contest after the primary, have fallen so short of their intended effect, that Judge Robinson's election to the governorship can be put, without exaggeration, in the 'safe' class, too. We hear a great deal of the prosperity—Democratic prosperity—that prevails under the present administration, but while it is the truth that compulsory idleness does not prevail anywhere, that wages are good, that the price of farm products has gone up and are still rising (the Democratic arguments in favor of the administration)—the best proof that this credit is not to be attributed to the Wilson administration is the fact that it has not come through legislation enacted during the last four

years. The government has not promoted war trade, through which a large part of the prosperity comes; nor has it enacted any legislation to stimulate railroad expansion. The only railroad legislation—that dealing with the hours of labor for the brotherhoods, was a detriment to prosperity, if it operated in either direction. Then, too, while individual Americans have made money, Uncle

Sam himself has not prospered. Instead of taking in \$275,000,000 or \$300,000,000 in customs duties as he might have done, he has taken in a little more than \$200,000,000 and has been forced to impose direct taxes to meet the government's needs. The country is in a listening and respectful mood; Mr. Hughes is finding it so, and if he keeps up his present lick, talking in his direct

way, and meeting the issues squarely as he goes, President Wilson will find that his advisers will urge that he spend less and less time in the political porch parties at Shadow Lawn—but get out into the open and say something more intelligible to average voters than has yet been spoken in defense of his policies.

Bolivia exports tin.

Under the operation of a new drainage law, Prince Edward Island is expected to increase its farm values by \$4,000,000.

Commercial failures in Argentina in the first half of 1916 show liabilities of less than one-half those of the same period of 1915 and one-fourth those of 1914.

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